

UNO parking plan awaits vote by NU Regents

By HENRY CORDES and ANNE JOHNSON

UNO Chancellor Del Weber had some good news and bad news about the UNO parking situation Tuesday.

The good news is construction will begin this fall on a \$9 million, 1,500-space parking garage behind the UNO Arts and Sciences Hall.

The bad news is about 400 parking spaces will be lost during construction of the garage, which is to be completed by fall 1985.

The time is right for construction, Weber said. The UNO Diamond Jubilee Fund has reached its \$29.5 million funding goal for the campus redevelopment plan. The fund was started last winter with a \$6 million gift from the Kiewit Foundation, which UNO had to match on a 3-to-1 basis with state funds and private donations.

"It will be an exciting two or three years. The campus will be transformed."

—UNO Chancellor Del Weber

Saturday at its July meeting, the NU Board of Regents will be asked to leave approval of the parking structure design to a vote of its executive committee, once the designs are completed. The deviation from standard procedure is necessary so construction can begin as soon as possible, and because the Regents don't meet in August.

Weber said the architectural firm of Henningson Durham & Richardson (HDR) will design the structure, with Peter Kiewit Sons Inc. as the contractor.

The Regents will also be asked Saturday to approve HDR as the designer of the laboratory sciences building and circulation road, projects that are also part of UNO's campus redevelopment plan.

"It will be an exciting two or three years," Weber said. "The campus will be transformed."

But he said during that time UNO will face "a series of continuing irritations" with the construction projects on campus. Weber said people will have to work together during this time.

Particularly affected will be the campus parking problem. The 400 spots lost behind Arts and Sciences Hall are primarily faculty and staff spaces. Dave Castilow, director of Campus Se-

curity, said he was unsure how the current lots will be reapportioned between faculty and student spots. He said he will know more about the situation after the University Planning Committee meets next week.

But Weber said: "The problem is going to necessitate much heavier reliance on Ak-Sar-Ben" shuttle services.

Another item on the Regents' agenda is a request to approve the relocation and demolition of several annexes behind Arts and Sciences Hall to make room for the parking structure.

The University took out a \$30,000 building permit with the city of Omaha last week for the relocation of Annex 33. The annex, which previously housed Central stores and Receiving, will be moved to the west end of campus and transformed into a sculpture lab.

Neil Morgensen, director of Plant Management, said the new location for the annex is not final. But, he added, it will be in the area surrounding Lot W, away from mainstream traffic.

Annexes 34 and 35, located south of Arts and Sciences Hall, apparently will be demolished under the plan. The annexes house the ceramics lab, drama scene shop and sculpture studio.

Annex 21, the former Writer's Workshop, will be transformed into a ceramics laboratory, and an addition will be constructed to Arts and Sciences Hall for relocation of the dramatic arts scene shop.

The agenda provision asking permission to clear a construction site states in part:

"In order for construction of the parking facility to commence, it is necessary to clear the site. The sculpture lab, ceramics lab and dramatic arts scene shop are all located in facilities on the construction site south of Arts and Sciences Hall. Since construction of the parking structure is planned to begin this fall, these three academic functions must be relocated prior to the start of classes for the fall semester, which begins on Aug. 27, 1984."

Morgensen said HDR was selected for both the laboratory sciences building and the circulation design projects after the University's architectural selection process was completed earlier this month.

He said nine firms were interviewed for the lab sciences design and three for the circulation road. HDR was chosen by both the lab sciences committee and the circulation road committee. Morgensen said the circulation committee was composed of representatives from Campus Security, Business Services, College of Engineering, faculty, Student Services, Central Administra-

UNO Campus Redevelopment

A. Parking Garage	\$ 9,000,000
B. Surface Parking	1,200,000
C. Science Building	14,500,000
D. Circulation Road and demolition of temporary buildings	1,049,000
E. Landscaping	150,000
F. Land Acquisition	3,282,000
G. Contingencies	319,000
Total	\$29,500,000

tion and Plant Management.

He said the Laboratory Sciences committee was composed of the chairpersons of departments which will use the lab sciences building, Central Administration, Plant Management representatives and John Newton, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences.

According to Morgensen, the committees liked "everything" about HDR's presentations.

"They just did an excellent, excellent job of presenting the considerations that need to be taken into account," he said. "They were very creative in providing possible solutions."

Jack Schnettler, senior transportation engineer for HDR, said he felt his firm was chosen because of its knowledge about traffic circulation.

"We indicated we have a lot of experience doing work of a similar nature, but on a larger scale," he said.

Weber said he was not certain about the exact start dates for the Diamond Jubilee projects.



Reach the beach . . . see page two.

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An information service designed to advise UNO students on campus organizations, services and departments. Please request tape by number 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday - Friday.

Area beaches offer seasonal relief

By KENNY WILLIAMS

Beach people are a special breed. They are different sizes, shapes, sexes and colors. Some are married, some aren't. Some have a flock of kids, some don't.

But beach people all share a common affection for the feel of sand beneath their toes and the sound of waves lapping at the shoreline.

Some beach people are pseudo-masochists. They are willing to risk their precious layers of vulnerable skin to the savage onslaught of the midwestern summer sun. Sun gods, beach potatoes, call them what you will. Ultraviolet rays mean nothing to them. Life is reduced to the simple pursuit of the savage tan.

Some beach people are athletes. A beach creates instant volleyball players. And people who think a crowded beach is the perfect place to play kill the guy with the football. Frisbees are popular at the beach. Tennis balls, beach balls, just about any tossed object is fun at the beach.

Some beach people are navigators. Frustrated captains, lan-

locked by the seasons, now able to man their inflatable rafts and sail beyond the crowded shoreline into the forbidden deep.

Some beach people are intellectuals who tote along textbooks, magazines or steamy drugstore novels to read while they "sun." Some actually read a few pages.

Parents are a special breed of beach people. Let history record that the best way to wear out unruly children is to take them to the beach. Sure, Sonny will throw sand in Sissy's hair. Sure, Sissy will puncture Sonny's raft. Sure Junior will pull off his diaper in the water. So what? By 3 p.m. they'll be folding under like wet noodles, exhausted.

But the real reason people go to the beach is to look at other people. Voyeurs. Indiscreet, polite even (most of the time), but voyeurs nonetheless. After all, where else but the beach can you see so many strangers wearing the least amount of clothing in public that their consciences will allow. Some are more daring than others.

They are the exhibitionists, Beach people who simply go out to show off their bodies. The slinkiest, smallest bikini or swimsuit will do.

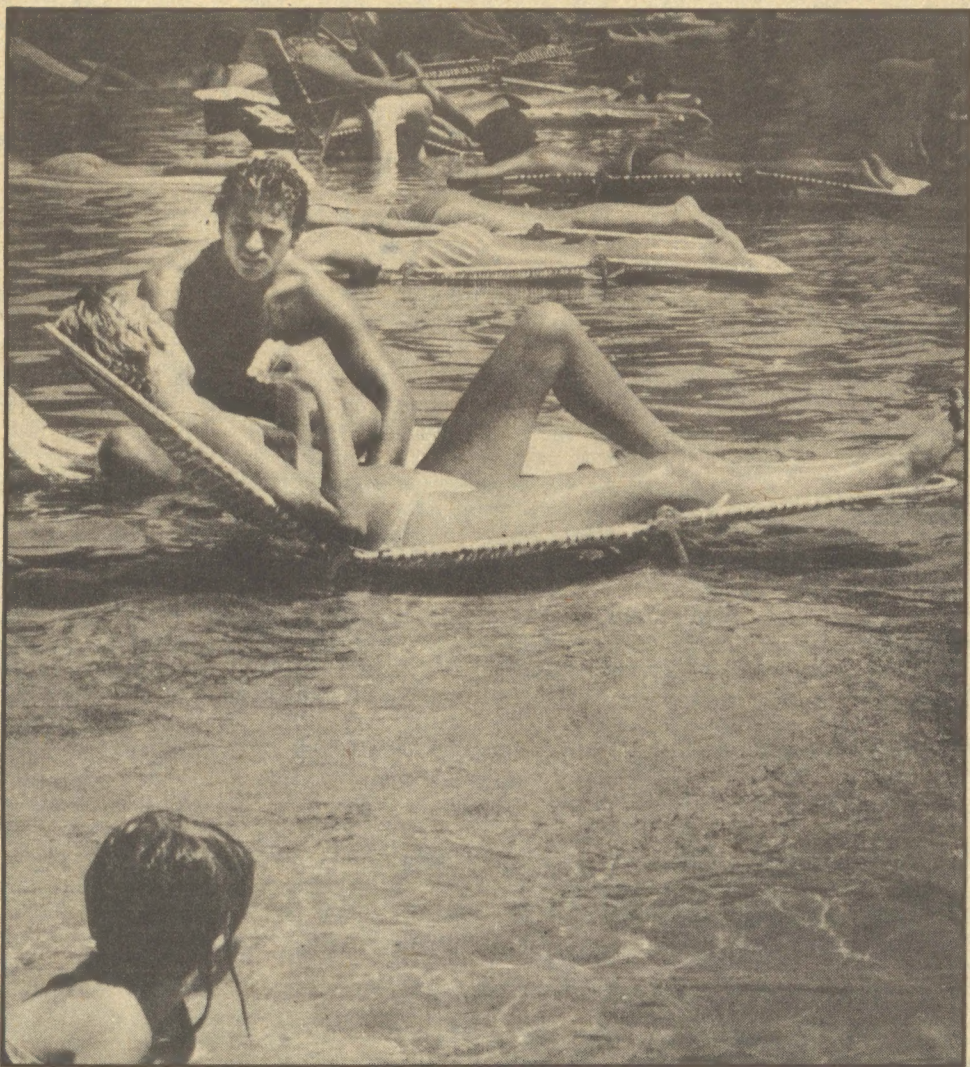
And don't forget those who go to the beach to swim. Imagine that. The true midwesterner knows only two ways to beat the heat on a sweltering summer day. In the air conditioning or in the water.

If you're interested, a number of beaches in and around the Omaha area are waiting for you. So get out that blanket, pack up the beach towel and the Coppertone. Slip some new batteries in your blaster, slap on your shades and reach the beach.

Nebraska

Let's face it. Omaha is not exactly "surf city, here we come material." But Omaha really does have beaches. Not more than a mile from this University, in the heart of the Big O, lies **Peony Park**, one of the city's oldest family fun centers and beach.

Peony Park is an Omaha institution. It has been at the same location, 8100 Cass St., since 1919. At that time, it was only a roadside chicken stand and ice house. The three-acre lake and bathhouse were built in 1926. Today, Peony is showing its age. Cracks are developing in the bottom of the pool. In the shallow parts you may stub your



Lynn Sanchez

Soaking it up . . . a line of sun worshippers at Peony Park.

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The beach . . . a wonderful effect on children.

Lynn Sanchez

foot, and it hurts like heck. But that will all change, as the owners are entertaining plans for a \$5 million renovation.

Although Peony's ad (There's a lot of summer fun comin' at ya, and it's heading your way) may seem like a lesson in redundancy, the park provides plenty to do. The pool is ringed with a lot of beach area, and the pool itself has diving boards, a slide and a diving tower. Also available are a couple of floating docks in the water on which to lay.

Primarily a family spot, Peony Park entertains numerous kids. The addition of the Tubes water slide at the north end of the complex has increased the kid factor by four, so if screaming tots aren't your thing, you may not like it. If you don't mind waiting in a long line however, the slide is really pretty fun.

The music, as is the case with most of the beaches, is piped in through those funny little speakers usually used for bingo halls and stock car races. The result is a grainy-sounding sort of blare, but at least it's music.

No cans or bottles are allowed on the beach, no pets either. However, you can bring a picnic, get a stamp at the gate, and go out to one of the many picnic areas in the park for a shady lunch. There is also a concession stand and beer garden just outside the pool entrance if you feel like going out for a brew and a sandwich.

The pool opens at 10:30 a.m. and closes at 8:30 p.m. or when 25 or fewer swimmers are left in the pool. Admission price is 75 cents to get into the park, and \$1.75 to swim. If you want to swim and ride the slide, it costs \$6 for all day, and \$4 after 4 p.m. If you'd just like to ride the slide a few times, cost is 50 cents a ride or five rides for \$2.

Farther to the west, halfway to Lincoln, is **Linoma Beach**. This is also an old facility which is highlighted by its unique lighthouse and adjoining restaurant. The lighthouse, according to Linoma staffer Kelly Roberts, was built in 1940 and is one of only two inland lighthouses in the United States.

This is also a family-oriented facility, which has in addition to the beach and restaurant a campground with electricity and

water hookups.

The beach area features volleyball nets and horseshoe pits. Canoe and rowboat rentals are also available for \$2 an hour. Swings and other children's toys are available in a play area, with slides and diving boards in the water.

The beach has a bathhouse, restrooms and a concession stand which serves beer and food. If you're willing to make it a weekend or all-day affair, the Linoma Beach restaurant features a varied menu and newly renovated seating area. The menu includes lobster, steaks, oriental dishes and spaghetti.

The beach is open from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m., and the restaurant from 9 a.m. to midnight weekdays, and 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. weekends. Beach admission is \$2 for adults and \$1.50 for kids under 12. Children under 5 are free. Linoma beach is located on Highway 6

west of Omaha. To get there, take Interstate 80 west to the Ashland exit, then follow Highway 6 three miles west to the lighthouse.

If you live in South Omaha or are just looking for a beach with a lot of variety, **Merritts Beach**, south of Bellevue, is one of the areas most popular spots. This beach has a lot of things to do and draws a good crowd of college-age students and Air Force personnel.

High water from recent flooding kept the beach closed for some time, and even now it hampers some of the facility.

Manawa is also home to some of the strangest bikinis in the area, and if you like tatoos, there seem to be more here than other area beaches . . . cans of beer flow freely among the patrons.

One of the park's main attractions, a trapeze-like swing that swings out high over the water, is not available for use now because the water is too high. An assortment of other activities are available, however, to keep any beach bum busy.

The beach contains four volleyball courts, swingsets, basketball (on the beach and in the water), weights, parallel bars, horizontal bars, punching bags and tether ball. And if that isn't enough, you can also rent paddleboats (\$2 for 30 minutes) and a really great contraption called the waterwheel (also \$2 for a half hour). Surfboards can be rented for \$2 an hour, although rumor has it that it may be eons before the surfing is any good again.

The beach has a complete restroom/bathhouse facility and a concession stand that serves beer and food. The beach is open

10 a.m. to 7 p.m. weekdays and 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. holidays and weekends. Admission is \$3.50 for those 12 and over, \$2 for ages 6-11, and 50 cents for those 6 and under. Group discounts are available for parties, and a discount pass of 10 entries for \$25 is available. Merritts Beach is located on highway 73/75 south of the SAC Air Force Base.

Iowa

On the Iowa side, the newly renovated **Lake Manawa** beach is beginning to draw good crowds. Although not quite up to par with other area beaches as far as actual facilities go, Manawa is leaps and bounds better than it was a year ago.

The whole park is undergoing a major facelift, and the beach area has benefited from the work. Gone are the dead fish and other flotsam and jetsam that used to line the shore, a result of an extensive dredging operation that was completed last year.

Unlike previous years, the beach is now fenced in and gate admission is charged. But it now has a concession stand and a volleyball net, as well as a staff of lifeguards.

Manawa is also home to some of the strangest bikinis in the area, and if you like tatoos, there seem to be more here than other area beaches. Music is provided via a two-speaker hookup that you can hardly hear on the beach, but usually a lot of people have their own radios within earshot.

No bottles are allowed on the beach, but coolers are, and cans of beer flow freely among the patrons. The concession stand has soft drinks, candy, and video games. Shower facilities aren't available and the bathrooms are strictly risky business.

Admission price is \$1 for adults, 50 cents for kids 12 and under. The beach opens at 10 a.m., and the lifeguards leave at 8:30 p.m. After then, it's swimming at your own risk until the park closes at 10:30 p.m.



Lynn Sanchez

Walking on water . . . a Merritt's Beach patron takes a spin on a waterwheel.

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Comment

Watchdogging

Maybe it's from having too many classes with UNO journalism professor Warren Francke, but I seem to have developed a sort of watchdog instinct. An example: CBS's coverage of the Democratic National Convention last week. In particular Ed Bradley of 60 Minutes fame.

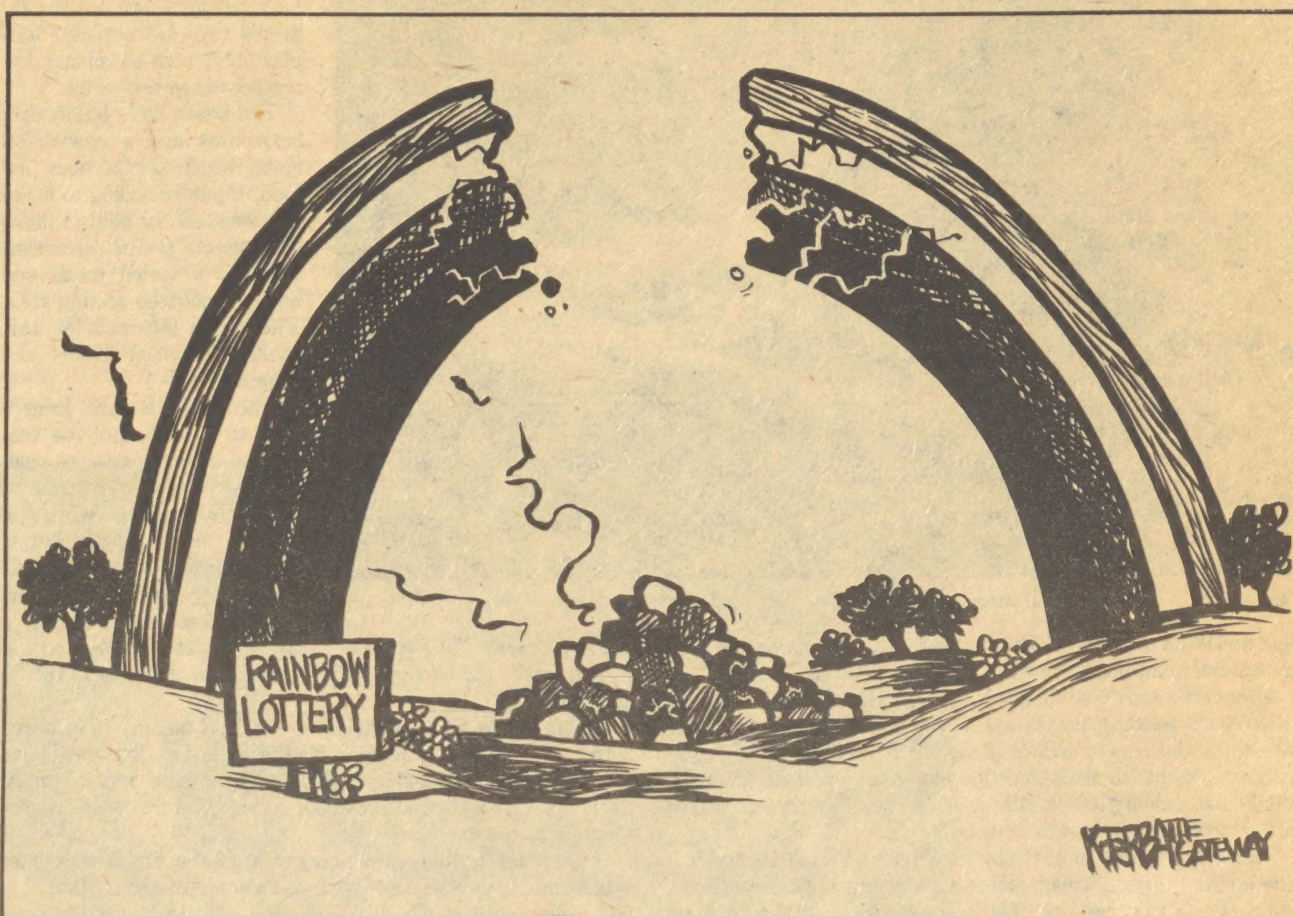
Bradley was on the convention floor covering the action. Maybe it was because there wasn't too much action at the time (George McGovern was speaking), but Ed decided to confront Chicago Mayor Harold Washington. He did much more than confront him, though. He baited him.

He got Washington out of his chair on the convention floor, and in front of the camera started to pump him about his stormy relationship with Chicago City Alderman Ed Vrdolyak. "Why can't you talk?" Bradley asked. "How can Chicago city government survive if you two can't even carry on a dialogue?" Washington disagreed, and said he and Vrdolyak could probably carry on a dialogue.

So what does Bradley do? He produces Vrdolyak. Washington, very irritated, had nothing to do with it, though. Instead, and rightly so, he raked Bradley over the coals in front of 40 million viewers for staging such an awkward confrontation without his prior knowledge.

"How could you stoop so low . . . a man of your caliber . . . I'm surprised . . . lure me just to get a few lines . . ." etc., etc. Washington was right. Bradley had stepped over the line. He had created news for the sake of news. Did he really think this fiasco would suddenly bring Washington and Vrdolyak together? Come on now. That sort of muckraking might pass for 60 Minutes, but this is a convention, not prime time television.

—Kenny Williams



Toxic chemical victims lobby for Superfund extension

By COLMAN MCCARTHY

WASHINGTON — John O'Connor, coordinator for the National Campaign Against Toxic Hazards, had a modest thought last December. Why not assemble some victims of exposure to toxic chemicals and bring them to Washington to meet with William Ruckelshaus of the Environmental Protection Agency?

Instead of reading reports on what has been happening since 18,000 potentially dangerous toxic waste sites were listed under the Superfund program, Ruckelshaus might benefit from meeting with citizens who had suffered miscarriages, cancer, breathing disorders, facial numbness and other tragedies.

The victims were easily found. Ruckelshaus wasn't. O'Connor, 29, a former VISTA volunteer and a Stratford, Conn., resident who grew up within breathing distance of a corporation's dumpsite of asbestos waste products, reports that seven months and at least 100 phone calls back and forth to EPA were needed to set up a day and time for the meeting. Finally on July 9, O'Connor and 14 other community organizers — most of them victims of toxic exposure — were given an hour and 20 minutes of Ruckelshaus' valuable time.

After seven months and 100 phone calls, O'Connor and his group wondered if there weren't less stressful ways to punish themselves. There is a simple answer to that: become executives of companies that are befouling America with toxic wastes. Would 15 board chairmen need to make 100 phone calls or wait seven months before the Reagan administration would say, in

the name of constituent service, welcome brothers? One call and one day would do it.

Under Rita Lavelle and Anne Burford, EPA was a house of hospitality for companies wanting to whine about the expenses of dealing with their poisons. Lavelle was sentenced to six months in prison for lying to Congress about her corporate friendships. Under Reagan, her mission was coverups, not clean-ups.

On July 9, the patient and long-waiting citizens asked Ruckelshaus to support legislation now in the House that would provide \$9 billion over five years for cleaning up sites. This is Superfund II. Under the first one, whose current \$1.6 billion five-year program expires in 1985, less than 10 sites out of 546 on the national priority list have been cleaned.

Ruckelshaus agreed that more money was needed. He expressed sympathy for the concerns of the citizens. But he would not support the bill. A number of its provisions, it seems, need more study by EPA's post-Burford experts.

Following the July 9 meeting, several toxic hazard victims expressed their anger and disappointment. "I looked him in the face, and I told Mr. Ruckelshaus that I had a miscarriage and a child who died two days after birth," said Cathy Hinds, who in the mid-1970s lived near a waste site in East Gray, Maine. "It is beyond me how a man can sit and listen to stories like this and still say no."

Hinds, who along with her family was drinking well water

contaminated by such toxic chemicals as benzene, toluene and tri-chlorethylene, went on to organize the Maine Citizens Coalition on Toxics. She discovered that three other women in her community who had consumed the affected water had had miscarriages.

The tragedy of Hinds needed no explaining to the 14 citizens who joined her at the EPA meeting. With only small deviations, their stories were similar. They lived near a Superfund site; they and their children began to suffer health problems; they organized into a citizens group and asked local officials for health studies. They were stonewalled.

A variant of this runaround was experienced by Bonnie Exner, a Coloradan. Between 1974 and 1980, she and her family suffered respiratory problems whenever cyanide in the air blew in from the Lowry landfill near Denver. Exner tells of seeking help from Burford, then a state legislator. Go to the feds, Burford said. Two years later, Exner did that. She went to Burford the fed. It's a state problem, she was told.

John O'Connor also has a Burford story. Two years ago, he and other toxic victims met with her at EPA. It was in the same room on the same topic. They received the same response: More study was needed.

Last January, Ronald Reagan mentioned Superfund in his State of the Union address. Extend it, Reagan said, "for as long as needed." Ruckelshaus will tell you they're studying it — for as long needed.

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THE SCARLET LETTER



The Gateway

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Letters to the editor must be signed, but those with noms de plume may be accepted. All letters should include appropriate identification, address, and telephone number. (Address and telephone number will not be published.) Letters critical of individuals must be signed by using the first and last name, or initials and last name. Preference is given to typed letters. All correspondence is subject to editing and available space.

Letters exceeding two (2) typewritten pages will be considered editorial commentary, and are subject to the above criteria.

Inquiries or complaints should be directed to the editor; advertising inquiries should be directed to the advertising manager. Copies of the Student Publication Committee inquiry policy are available at The Gateway office.

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★ SALUTE TO THE STARS ★

RECENTLY, STEVEN SPIELBERG DISCLOSED THAT "E.T. THE EXTRA-TERRESTRIAL" WAS NOT THE FIRST TITLE CHOICE FOR HIS FAMOUS MOVIE, SOME OTHER NAMES CONSIDERED INCLUDE "E.T.P. THE EXTRA-TUBA PLAYER" AND "E.T. - EARL TARNINSKI."



HOW E.T. WOULD HAVE LOOKED AS EARL TARNINSKI.

What's Next

KVNO Public Radio's Second Annual Lawn Sale ("Biathlon" for "Buy-at-the-Lawn") is scheduled for this weekend, Friday through Sunday. Furniture, antiques, housewares, tools, appliances, books, records, clothes, luggage, games, toys, toddler items and other articles will be sold. A silent auction, entertainment, bake sale and arts and crafts booths are among the featured activities.

The lawn sale runs from noon to 9 p.m. today; 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday, on the lawn of KVNO Radio.

See the Sights

The Office of Admissions will provide UNO campus tours for the remainder of the summer. Tours will be conducted Monday through Friday, from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. and will begin in the Office of Admissions reception area, Epley 103. Any large groups (10 or more people) interested in seeing the campus should call in advance to make arrangements.

On Your Marks

The sixth annual "Thirsty Thursday Turtle Races," sponsored by UNO Campus Recreation and the Omaha Parks and Recreation Department, continues. Two more nights of turtle racing are scheduled for August 2 and 9. The races take place in the Elmwood Park Pavillion from 7 to 9:30 p.m.

Musical Mayhem

"Sweeney Todd" is at the Center Stage now through July 29. Performances for the Stephen Sondheim musical thriller are scheduled for Friday and Saturday evenings at 8 p.m. and Sunday afternoon at 2 p.m. All seats are \$7. For more information, call Center Stage at 444-6199.

Self-Images

"Artists By Themselves: Artists' Portraits From the National Academy of Design" is currently on exhibit at the Joslyn Art Museum, now through Aug. 19. The exhibit is drawn from the National Academy's more than 1,300 portraits, most of which are self-portraits submitted by artists as a condition of membership in the Academy in New York City. The collection is the largest of its kind in the world. It

contains 71 pieces of nineteenth- and twentieth-century American paintings.

Sculpture and Song

The Joslyn Art Museum's Sculpture Garden is the site for the new Music in the Garden Series, with the second concert of the series today. Curley Ennis and the Royal Rangers will perform from 11:45 a.m. to 1:15 p.m. Admission is free.

Flag Fun

UNO University Bands will sponsor a Flag Corps Summer Camp July 30, 31 and Aug. 2 and 3. Junior and senior high school students will participate in the camp. The camp will include instruction in flag and marching fundamentals, precision routines, group formations, advanced flag techniques and routine planning and design. Sessions on interpersonal relations and leadership training will be geared to corps captains. Camp participants will learn several new marching routines, write an original routine and present a grand performance finale which will be open to the public.

Cost of the camp is \$5. For more information or to register, contact University Bands at 554-3352.

Dancin' Shoes

The Dance Omaha Studio at 5805 S. 86th Circle will be the site for the Dance Omaha-Dance Off Competition to benefit the American Cancer Society.

Preliminary competition will begin at 9 p.m. tonight and will continue for nine consecutive Fridays with the weekly winners competing for the championship to be held Friday, Sept. 28. The contests will be included in the weekly Friday night dance parties which are open to the public. Admission for the 9 p.m. to 12 a.m. dance is \$1.50 per person.

Individuals or groups wishing to become contestants are invited to perform any style of dance with a space restriction of 9'24". Contestants must pre-register to compete and a \$5 registration fee is required. For more information or to pre-register, call the Dance Omaha Studio at 331-4256.

News Brief

Randy Walters, a professor of mathematics at UNO, recently attended the Institute for Re-training in Computer Science (IFRCS) at Clarkson University in Potsdam, N.Y.

Walters and 125 mathematicians with doctoral degrees or strong math backgrounds were

selected from 300 applicants to attend the Institute. The faculty at the Institute have been recruited from highly regarded universities such as, Berkeley, Carnegie-Mellon, Cornell, Dartmouth, Wisconsin, MIT and top industrial research centers.



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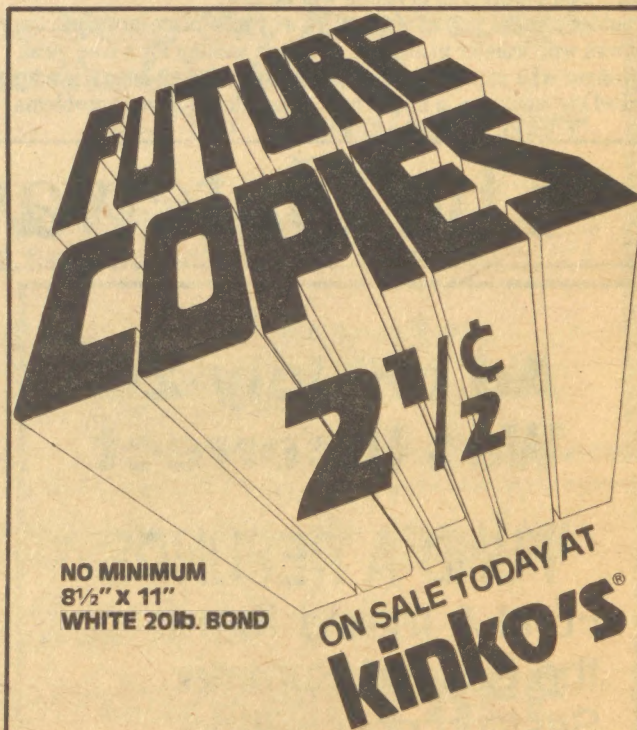
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Strong cast, bawdy fun create lively 'Whorehouse'

What are the best things about "The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas?" An excellent cast featuring Patricia Arnell and Darrell Sandeen, provocative staging, bawdy humor and colorful colloquialisms. Most of the songs are pretty good, too.

A four-month run of the popular musical began July 18 at The Firehouse Dinner Theatre.

Dick Mueller directs the adult comedy which pokes fun at people's tendency to be outraged publicly over what they secretly enjoy.

The story is set at the "Chicken Ranch," one of the most famous institutions in Texas until publicity-seeker Melvin P. Thorpe decided to make the bordello the subject of his newscasts. Sheriff Ed Earl Dodd ordered the crusader out of town. When the lawman's blue speech made the evening news statewide, the chickens really hit the fan.

Review

Some of the funniest moments in the play involve the reactions of the state's politicians to a situation everyone knew about, but no one would acknowledge. Dennis Arnold as the governor does "The Sidestep." Senator Wingwoah, played by Jesse Perman, is caught with his pants down, but claims he was drugged by Communists. A reporter reminds him there are no Communists in Texas.

The dance numbers performed by the supporting cast were lively and well-executed. Sally A. Neumann and Ron LaRosa deserve special notice for their performances.

Patricia Arnell played, "Don't call her Madam" Mona, the proprietor of the Chicken Ranch. The place got its name by accepting chickens in lieu of cash during the Depression. Nevertheless, it is a high-class operation. Mona doesn't allow any foul talk or crass ways. She's learned life's hard lessons, and she doesn't cry, she doesn't complain. She's a "Good Ol' Girl" who's been in love with the sheriff for 20 years.

Arnell was strong, believable and has a wonderful voice. Her costumes were lovely and very becoming.

Darrell Sandeen as the sheriff, was a man caught in a quandry. The rules he'd lived by all his life no longer worked, and he didn't know how to make things right. Sandeen was harried and



Good ol' boy fun . . . The citizens put their star attraction, Miss Mona's Chicken Ranch, to good use in the Firehouse production of "Best Little Whorehouse in Texas."

forlorn, but at the same time humorous in his gruff country ways. He looked exactly right for the part: right age, right stoop, right gestures. In other words, Sandeen made the part his.

Both Arnell and Sandeen have worked on Broadway and in television. Their ability was evident in the quality of the performances they delivered at The Firehouse.

The dinner theatre is much better theatre than dinner, how-

ever. The meal was unimaginative and overdone. Seating was crowded and the drinks were weak. Artistically, though, Mueller put on a fine show. "The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas" runs through Oct. 7. Prices vary from \$12.50 to \$21.50, depending on the day and time of the performance. Reservations may be made by calling 346-8833.

—PATTI DALE

Latest in 'Phil's Diner' saga called 'fast-paced fun'

Three cheers for the Circle Theatre's third production, "Phil & the Gang Say Bon Voyage to the Carlyle Hotel." The show is fast-paced fun set in a diner atmosphere. The third installment of the story of Phil's diner is the best.

It is intriguing to watch the development of playwright Douglas Marr through this series of plays. One can see him gathering up the threads of the story and weaving them into an emotionally satisfying drama.

The main character, Phil, owns a diner in a dying section of town. Misfits and derelicts play upon Phil's generosity.

Review

His cook is a tough-talking grouch with a passion for amateur wrestling. The dishwasher is a retarded young man who inexplicably has a flair for fixing mechanical things. The waitress is a naive little country girl, who in any crisis can be counted on to say, "Don't worry. Everything will be fine."

Added to this group of regulars at Phil's place are the customers who wander in and out — winos looking for a free meal, a woman who carries around a cage with a dead canary inside, a used car salesman, a taxi driver. They all bring their problems

to Phil.

Optimistic Phil is always looking for a way to improve business. In "Bon Voyage" he comes up with the idea of having a live broadcast from the diner. His friends and customers can perform on the air. The results are funny, touching, unexpected.

Phil's neighbor, Rudy, is a skeptic. However, as played by Matthew E. Kamprath, he is also a sweetheart. A lovable old man who believes the situation is hopeless, but hasn't the heart to stomp on other people's dreams. Kamprath maintains a consistent accent, even if one is unable to place the nationality. He knows just how long to hold a moment and how to milk a line for everything it's worth.

As the radio disc jockey Norman, Steven M. Gibbs mimics the man with a voice and image, but no soul. Gibbs is a wonderful comic actor.

Phil is played by Michael P. Markey. He is gentle, honest and believable in the part.

William Lacey has the part of the cook and is co-director of the play. His character's anger is perplexing — he wavers a little too much between good guy and bad guy. If the character is to be a human mixture of both, the edges need to be blended, the harshness toned down.

Lacey and co-director Douglas L. Paterson, have created a

company that works together smoothly. All the pieces fit, the action flows, the audience becomes absorbed.

Original music was composed for "Phil & the Gang Say Bon Voyage to the Carlyle Hotel." The rendition of "The Price of Trying to be Free" by Rod Freeman and John Kunz was a high point of the show.

Freeman portrays a wino who wants to perform the song he and his friend have written, but disappoints himself and everyone else by getting drunk. The acting gives a lot of meaning to the words.

The play has some problems, however. Although characters are well-defined, they tend to be stereotyped. The lady with the canary kept slipping into a southern accent even when she wasn't playing Blanche Dubois. Often, the audience knew what a character was going to say before he opened his mouth.

Still, "Phil & the Gang Say Bon Voyage to the Carlyle Hotel" is one of the best shows recently produced in Omaha. The acting is A-No. 1, the script is bright and funny and the price is great. Cost is \$6 for supper and show at Joe and Judy's Cafe, 6064 Maple St.

The play continues Mondays, Fridays and Saturdays through Aug. 6. For reservations, call 553-4852.

—PATTI DALE

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Sports

Former UNO wrestler, 'the tiger,' reaches Olympics

By POLIDOROS C. PSERROS

On July 19, 1983, a Turkish national, Abdurrahim Kuzu, took the oath of allegiance to the United States of America and became a naturalized citizen in ceremonies at the Federal District Court in Omaha. Starting Monday in Los Angeles, the former UNO wrestler will compete for an Olympic gold medal in Greco-Roman wrestling for his new country.

Kuzu, who has dual citizenship, said, "It gives me a thrill to represent both countries at the same time."

"It's a wonderful feeling," Kuzu said. The Turkish press follows his progress, and he is still considered a national hero.

In the United States since 1976, Kuzu is among the favorites to win the 136.5-pound featherweight Greco-Roman title at the Olympics. The Greco-style uses upper-body techniques and prohibits wrestlers from using holds below the hips and legs to push, press, squeeze or lift opponents.

At the 1979 World Championships, Kuzu became the first U.S. Greco wrestler to defeat a Russian, whose country has long dominated the competition. Kuzu finished the competition in second place and won a silver medal, the high point of his career.

For one brief, yet eventful semester, Kuzu wrestled for UNO.

Yet, for the wrestler whose friends cheer "Aslan!", the Turkish word for Tiger, when he competes, the eight-year stay has not been a succession of victories. Like most immigrants, it has been a matter of overcoming defeats.

In Turkey, Kuzu finished the American equivalent of high school and was first in a class of 600. He was in a special school designed to develop leadership and had an extensive religious curriculum. In 1975, he was already a national champion Greco wrestler in Turkey. His life was about to change.

That summer, Steve Dey, an Omaha Northwest junior, qualified for a trip to Turkey for a wrestling exhibition sponsored by the Amateur Athletic Union.

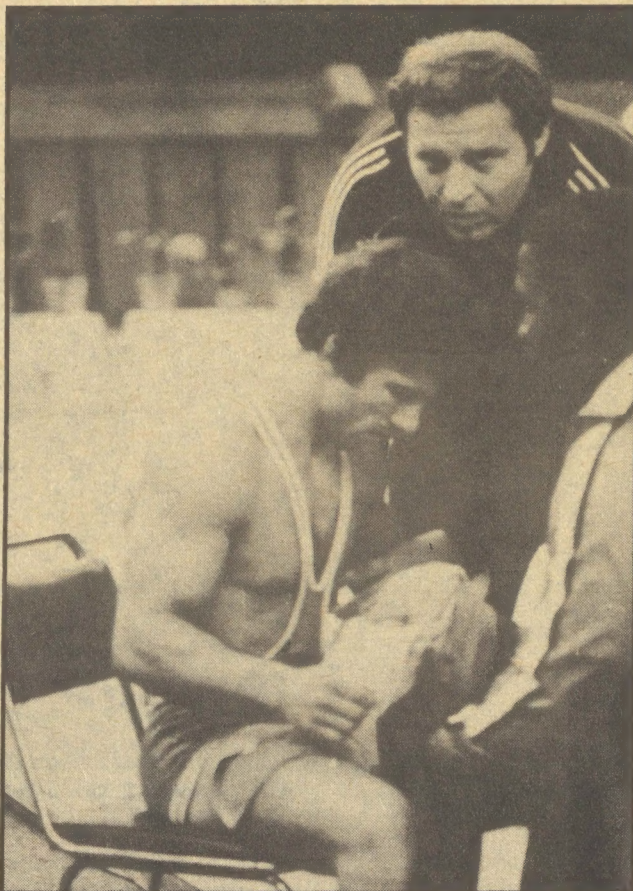
The team consisted of Colorado and Nebraska high school kids and had its first match in Istanbul. It is quite likely Turkish officials misunderstood and thought the Turkish team would wrestle the American national team. "We wrestled their Olympic team," Dey said. "Did we get tortured?"

"I wrestled a 26-year-old man," he added. "I was 17."

Before Dey knew what happened, the Turkish wrestler threw him on the mat. "At that time," Dey recalled, "in freestyle wrestling all you had to do to pin a guy was to have the back of his shoulders touch the mat for just a second."

Fearing humiliation, Dey recovered and hit the man low, surprising him, and knocking him backward. Whistles blew. "Oh, my God," Dey thought. "Did I do something wrong?"

"You won," they told him. "It was the funniest thing that



Greco tactics . . . Kuzu, left, assisted by U.S. coach Ken Levels and Viktor Dolipschi of Romania, during the 1982 World Championships.

ever happened to me," Dey said.

It was in Ankara that Dey met Kuzu.

Kuzu was staying at the same hotel as the American team. The interpreter assigned to the team had a limited vocabulary, according to Mick Pierce, the North Bend wrestling coach who came with the athletes. To almost every question, he would give the high sign and say, "Okaaay!" Kuzu, whose vocabulary wasn't much larger, became the interpreter. He went with the American team at his own expense.

After awhile, Kuzu became friends with the wrestlers, perhaps closest to Dey. He would tell them how to beat the Turks, Dey

said.

Kuzu expressed an interest in coming to the United States, Dey said. Upon his return, his mother, Jo Dey, took up the task of making it happen.

Letters criss-crossed the Atlantic. Car washes were arranged to gather funds for the trip. The Optimist Club helped. Jo Dey received small checks from the mothers of other wrestlers. Mary Christian, whose son David had been in Turkey and who later wrestled at UNO, sent a \$250 check, proceeds from a garage sale held in Gering, Neb.

On July 1, 1976, nearly a year after Steve Dey's visit to Turkey, Abdurrahim Kuzu stepped off the airplane. He saw Trish Dey, then 14, and said, "This is my sister I never had."

For two years, he stayed with the Richard Dey family, attending UNO with a scholarship from coach Mike Palmassano and joining Dey on the team.

He never hid his goal, and once when he was alone with Mrs. Dey, he told her, "Some day I'm going to win the Olympic gold medal for you."

But the road to the Olympics was rocky.

The NCAA declared Kuzu ineligible to wrestle at UNO until Jan. 1978.

"If you research great athletes," Palmassano said, "they're all competitors. He was very emotional."

At UNO, Kuzu learned about losing, and he didn't like it one bit.

"He lost his temper a lot of times," Mike Wofford, who wrestled at 150, said. "He was really frustrated at the style. He went from being a superior wrestler to an average wrestler at UNO."

The collegiate style which is done nowhere else in the world but in the United States gave him problems. Wrestlers attacked his legs, and he had no training to combat it. There were other problems.

"The style that he was trained," Palmassano said, "the guys come after each other."

In collegiate wrestling, he added, "you have to set your opponent up. That was a learning experience." Kuzu had to learn the rules to this foreign game.

Yet Kuzu compiled an 8-1-1 record in duals, 11-6-1 overall. He managed to adapt much of his Greco-style to the collegiate match.

"He was using those moves," Dan Oliverius said. Oliverius is a former UNO wrestler. "He had very exciting throws." UNO wrestlers called his throws "flying carpets."

He also used to drive Palmassano crazy, Jim Sackett, another wrestler, said, by throwing wrestlers down and then letting them

(Continued on page 8)



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Olympic 'tiger'

(Continued from page 7)

up again. Takedowns counted for more than escapes, so Kuzu was able to score points that way.

"I think I helped the team," Kuzu said. "I enjoyed being part of the team."

Kuzu decided to quit college wrestling. "I didn't want to do it anymore," he said, "because it wasn't my style."

Newt Copple, the AAU president of Lincoln, had never heard of Kuzu. When Mrs. Dey contacted him about helping with costs of Kuzu's trip, he sent a modest check.

It wasn't until Connie Kahle, his secretary, organized a Junior Olympics Tournament in Norfolk that he would meet Kuzu. She had asked Steve Dey to referee and to bring friends along to help. When she saw Kuzu, she knew Copple would want to meet him.

"I won't forget that Sunday," she said, "when I brought Kuzu down here from Norfolk, and Newt just took one look at him. They talked for a half hour."

"He was motivated," is all Copple said about the meeting.

Copple, who had wrestled until he was 39 in international meets, and who still trains in his 60s, set up many wrestling programs during his tenure at the AAU.

Copple, who brings many wrestlers from around the world to help develop the U.S. wrestling program, funded Kuzu when he decided to concentrate on Greco full-time. Kuzu moved to Lincoln in 1978.

At the U.S. wrestling trials in Iowa City in 1977, Kahle discovered that not all members of the wrestling community were glad to see Kuzu wrestle for the United States. Tournament officials were huddling together when she first spotted him.

"I saw Kuzu, totally wasted, sitting on the bleachers," Kahle said. "Stan Dziedzic at the time was competing, and he came up to me and he said, 'Connie, let's go call Newt. I'm freestyle, I don't know this kid from Adam, never seen him before in my life, but he tells me he is from Nebraska and he's wrestling for Newt, and they're absolutely giving him the shaft.'"

"They didn't want him to make the team because he was a foreigner," Kahle said. "He'd wrestle someone, and he'd win, 8-2, and they say, 'that was close, let's wrestle again.'"

"They're giving him a fresh guy every time," she said. "He wrestled like nine guys that day."

"Nothing is going to stop Kuzu," she said. "You know this is the Tiger." Kahle then imitated Kuzu: "I'm going to beat them all."

She then does an imitation of the tournament officials: "What are we going to do? We can't wear him out. We can't get anybody to beat him. Wow, this is terrible!"

"He was just sitting there waiting for the next guy," she said.



Kuzu's American family . . . from left to right, Trish, Jo and Steve Dey. Jo, or "Mom," will attend the games in Los Angeles, along with Abdurrahim's real brothers, Abraham and Recep.

If Kuzu had any enemies in the U.S. wrestling community, they vanished with the 1979 World Championships. Abraham had arrived that winter to help his brother train. Kuzu wiped out the Russian, Farhad Muetrafin.

"The officials disqualified the Russian on three cautions," Copple recalled. "Kuzu just drained him out of gas. He just stayed at him like a bear. Cautioned him out in the last period."

Copple initiated a request with the Justice Department, immigration and naturalization, to try to get Kuzu naturalized prior to the Moscow Olympics. "Virtually everybody in wrestling was writing letters," Kahle said. Elected officials took up the cause, but the request was denied. President Carter's decision to buy-

cott the Olympics made the denial a moot point.

In 1981, the Kuzu brothers opened Kuzu's Kebob in the East Park shopping center in east Lincoln. Brother Mustafa, 25, arrived in 1982 to help the business. Earlier this year, a second shop was opened downtown, just north of the Hilton.

Abdurrahim Kuzu continued to train. There were disappointments at the last two world championships. With the pressures of a business, he thought of giving up. Abraham told him not to. "I wrestled, I know. If he didn't do this, he would be sorry the rest of his life," he said.

"I hope he gets first place. He's worked hard. He deserves it."

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